

REMARKS

This is a response to the final Office Action mailed January 23, 2003 and takes into consideration the Examiner's comments from the telephone interview of March 19, 2003 (see Interview Summary). In the Interview Summary, the Examiner stated that the proposed amendment overcomes Preszler for Claims 21 and 24, and that it does not overcome Preszler for Claim 27 because Claim 27 does not manipulate the process of the method. Claim 27 has been rewritten accordingly. Presently Claims 21-29 remain in the application. Claims 1-20 have been cancelled. Claims 21, 24 and 27 have been amended by this response.

In that final Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 21-29 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Preszler.

In that final Office Action, the Examiner stated that:

Finally, applicant concludes that a poppet is an inherent part of a duplex valve. However, it is noted that the claims do not include any valve and applicant has not provided a basis in fact and/or technical reasoning to reasonably support that a duplex valve **must have a poppet** and therefore in an inherent part of the duplex valve.

It may be worth noting that applicant's representative has used the terms "duplex coupler" and "duplex valve" interchangeably in the prior response. This is believed to be proper since applicant contends that a duplex coupler contains a poppet, which defines a valve.

More importantly, by this response Applicant has amended the claims to explicitly recite a duplex coupler, "the duplex coupler having a poppet configured to discontinue flow through the duplex coupler when the duplex coupler is uncoupled." It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited prior art either discloses or makes obvious such construction.

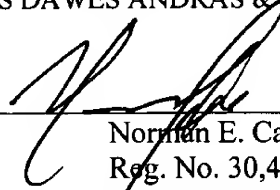
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Reconsideration and an early allowance are therefore respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."

Please note that applicant's representative has a new address. Please address all correspondence to **Myers Dawes Andras & Sherman LLP, Attention Norman Carte, 19900 MacArthur Blvd., Ste. 1150, Irvine, CA 92612.** A Revocation of Power of Attorney and Substitute Power of Attorney are provided herewith.

Respectfully submitted,
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES

Please amend Claims 21, 24 & 27 as follows:

21. (amended) A replaceable ink container assembly for use in an ink jet printer, the ink container assembly comprising:
- a container configured to hold ink;
 - a first coupling component of a duplex coupler formed to the container, the duplex coupler having a poppet configured to discontinue flow through the duplex coupler when the duplex coupler is uncoupled; and
- wherein the first coupling component is configured to mate with a complimentary second coupling component of a reservoir of think jet printer, so as to mitigate leakage of ink.
24. (amended) An ink jet printer comprising:
- a container configured to hold ink;
 - a first coupling component of a duplex coupler formed to the container, the duplex coupler having a poppet configured to discontinue flow through the duplex coupler when the duplex coupler is uncoupled;
 - a reservoir configured to receive ink from the container;
 - a complimentary second coupling component of the duplex coupler formed to the reservoir;
 - and
- wherein the first coupling component is configured to mate with the second coupling component, so as to mitigate leakage of ink.
27. (amended) A method for operating an ink jet printer, the method comprising:
- providing a container configured to hold ink, the container having a first coupling component of a duplex coupler formed thereto, the duplex coupler having a poppet configured to discontinue flow through the duplex coupler when the duplex coupler is uncoupled;
 - providing a reservoir configured to receive ink from the container, the reservoir having a complimentary second coupling component of the duplex coupler formed thereto; and

[facilitating a flow of ink from the container to the reservoir through the duplex connector.]

attaching the second coupling component of the reservoir to the first coupling component of the container such that the poppet of the duplex coupler is depressed so as to facilitate a flow of ink from the container to the reservoir.